

**ABSTRACT**

A multi-layer metal gasket includes at least one active layer and at least one shim layer having aligned combustion holes. The shim layer has annular portions surrounding the combustion holes and tab portions projecting radially outwardly from the annular portions surrounding the combustion holes and tab portions projecting radially outwardly from the annular portions. The annular portions underlie associated sealing beads of the active layer. The tab portions each have a radially extending neck region and a set of lateral bend tabs supported at the end of the neck region and projecting radially outwardly thereof. The bend tabs project through an associated set of laterally spaced mounting windows formed in the active layer and are bent back toward one another to secure the shim layer to the active layer.